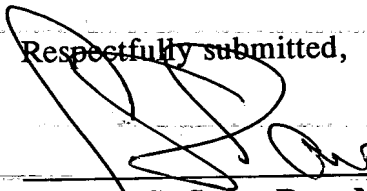


Respectfully submitted,

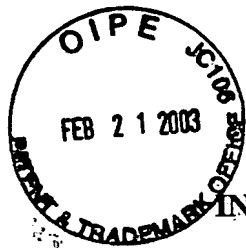

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. Serial No.: 09/693,408

Filing Date: 10/19/2000

Applicants: Alan C. Atwood

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Examiner: Goodman

Attorney Docket No.: 34828.006

"MARKED-UP" CLAIMS AS AMENDED, 37 CFR § 1.121(b)(1)(ii)

1. [TWICE AMENDED] An apparatus for holding an item to be cut comprising:
 - (a) a table; and
 - (b) a clamp for holding the item, the clamp [being capable of] translating on the table from the front to the rear of the table and rotating on an axis perpendicular to the table such that the item held by the clamp [can be rotated] rotates in 360 degrees.
5. [TWICE AMENDED] The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
 - (a) a mount;
 - (b) a shaft that is affixed on one end to the mount and on the other end to the clamp, such that the clamp [can rotate] rotates in 360 degrees;
 - (c) a tray that is affixed to the table;
 - (d) a track that is disposed in the tray, the track guiding the mount such that the mount slidably translates from the front to the rear of the table; and
 - (e) a plunger that fixes the mount to the shaft when a desired rotational position of the clamp is reached.
16. [TWICE AMENDED] The clamp of claim 13, in combination with:
 - (a) a table;
 - (b) a mount;
 - (c) a shaft that is affixed on one end to the mount and on the other end to the clamp, such that the clamp [can rotate] rotates in 360 degrees;
 - (d) a tray that is affixed to the table;
 - (e) a track that is disposed in the tray, the track guiding the mount such that the mount slidably translates from the front to the rear of the table; and
 - (f) a plunger that fixes the mount to the shaft when a desired rotational position of the clamp is reached.
25. [AMENDED] The apparatus of claim 5, wherein a cutting device is disposed on the table such that one end of the linear member [can be] is applied to the cutting device, cutting off the end of the linear member and wherein the mount [can be translated] translates to the forward edge of the table allowing the

clamp to be rotated 180 degrees and translating the mount toward the rear of the table thereby applying the second end of the linear member to the cutting device and cutting off the second end of the linear member.